

# THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

## New Plymouth Branch



Correspondence: President Jim Scrivener, 30 Hine St, New Plymouth; [jsa@compassnet.co.nz](mailto:jsa@compassnet.co.nz)  
Website: <http://theosophy.nz/centres/new-plymouth>

**President/Treas.:** Jim Scrivener Ph 021-2511 011 or Ph 758 3511

**Vice President:** Norah Lambie Ph 758 2733

**Committee:** Nina Vink, Peter Vink, Lynn Hartley, Glen Willard, Donna Willard-Moore, Ben Upton, Kayla Upton

### PROGRAMME March – April, 2019

**Venues & Time** - Public and Members' & friends' meetings will be held where noted, starting at 7.30pm unless shown otherwise. Members & friends' meetings begin with a Healing Group ceremony for the first 10 minutes.

If you're thinking of bringing a friend to a members & friends meeting, as a courtesy to the hosts, please phone Peter or Nina Vink on 758 8174 to let them know beforehand. Ideally we invite people to members & friends meetings after they have been to at least a couple of public meetings and show interest, but since there may only be a few of these in a year, this can be limiting. If your friend hasn't made it to a public meeting and is still interested, then hand them first some of the pamphlets and the 'green book' as an introduction, so they will have some idea of what we're about. Ring Jim Scrivener on the numbers above, for extra copies of pamphlets etc.

#### March

Wednesday 6 **Pointing a way to Divine Wisdom** **Public**

– a presentation by Jim Scrivener followed by discussion.

The poem 'The Golden Stairs' by H. P. Blavatsky points a way to Divine Wisdom, but is not a list of commandments telling us how to live – we have to work that out for ourselves. It does not remove moral ambiguity from our lives or resolve the crises in conscience which we face from day to day. But it does point the way to our collective involvement in bettering society, in lifting a little of the heavy karma of the world.

*Jim is a retired architect with an interest in music and theosophy. He enjoys playing french horn in the Taranaki Symphony Orchestra and been involved in the Theosophical Society since 1988 serving the New Plymouth branch in various roles since then.*

**Time & venue:** 7.30pm at the Disability Information Centre, 28 Young St, New Plymouth

Wednesday 20 **The Art of Living** **Members & friends**  
a presentation by Nina Vink, with discussion

**Venue:** Peter & Nina Vink's house, 218 Mangorei Rd, New Plymouth

#### April

Wednesday 3 **How to hear the Voice of the Silence** **Members & friends**  
– presentation by visiting Australian national lecturer Barry Bowden

Silence and stillness are a common point in most of the deeper texts, they exist within us and if we create the right atmosphere within our self they can "Become" this text outlines the "way"



*Barry will tell you, nature has been his greatest teacher!*

*He worked with farming for many years as a Bio-dynamic farmer through the processes of nature, both challenging and rewarding. How there is a process going on inwardly, a sensitization through nature, which always stimulates the inward life. Carefully guided by an understanding of deeper Theosophical truths, this knowledge has helped him understand himself. How this is the key to understanding others and life itself. His passion is Theosophy. Theosophy illuminates the hidden processes of nature, which when understood become practical. He aspires to help people realize the hidden potential within themselves, and awaken their inner life, and is a National lecturer for the Theosophical Society in Australia as well as being involved in Toowoomba group and Brisbane Lodge. He spent time recently in Brazil, as a guest at their Theosophical farm and speaking at the South American Convention.*

**Time & venue:** 5.15pm at the Disability Information Centre, 28 Young St, New Plymouth

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Followed at 6.15 – 7pm by a **Pot Luck dinner** at the same venue  
*Please bring along a vegetarian dish to share for a pot luck tea with our guest speaker.*

Summary:

5.00pm Arrive and set up

5.15pm Members & friends talk

6.15pm Pot luck dinner

7 – 7.15pm set up for the public meeting following at 7.30pm

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Wednesday 3 **Bio-Dynamics a method and way of life** **Public**  
continued – presentation by visiting Australian national lecturer Barry Bowden

Being a Bio-Dynamic farmer for 23 years gave me a great understanding of what it means to work with the earth and form a relationship with her. These methods are so needed in the world today and this is a brief introduction to it.

**Time & venue:** 7.30pm at the Disability Information Centre, 28 Young St, New Plymouth

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Thursday 4 – **Extra talks/ discussions with visiting lecturer Barry Bowden** **Members & friends**  
Saturday 6 **Times & venues:** to be advised on the day by phone or email for those interested.

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Wednesday 17 **The Fractal Universe** **Public**  
– presentation by Benjamin Upton

Why is every system in nature a component of a larger system? Why do we see patterns repeating at multiple scales? Is it possible the universe is a fractal? Join me in examining some of the science, exploring the theories and investigating how far this idea goes back into our history.

**Time & venue:** 7.30pm at the Disability Information Centre, 28 Young St, New Plymouth

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**Other events outside our branch** – keep an eye on the Theosophy NZ website <https://theosophy.nz/> for upcoming events you might be able to attend.

Also keep an eye on neighbouring branch activities via the pages at <https://theosophy.nz/centres> (e.g. Wanganui, Hamilton, Palmerston North) - if there is a talk or event you'd like to attend, see if others here are interested in getting a car-load together. If you can let me know well ahead of time there may be a chance of applying for regional funding to help with travel costs, e.g. petrol. Note that it can't be retrospective.

**Other resources on the web – Theosophy World**  
<http://www.theosophy.world/>

Have a look at a wealth of articles publications, ebooks, video and audio archives, all searchable and perfect to help you research something.

**New Plymouth Branch Library** – A reminder - when you're next at a members meeting at the Vink's place, make the time to have a quick browse. Many of the classics are there, but also quite a few more modern ones. We've recently had 3 donated from National Office including an important new one "The Initiate Life" by Geoffrey Hodson. If you'd like to visit when

you have a bit of time, please phone Peter or Nina Vink on 758 8174 to arrange a time.

**Overdue membership subscriptions**

A gentle reminder to a few with overdue subscriptions that the current ones (to 31/8/19) were due on 20/9/18. We have to lapse members when they are 2 years in arrears, so please check if you've had a reminder, and if you've since paid by direct credit, drop the treasurer an email to let him know. Even if you can't make it to meetings, bear in mind the subscriptions are at a similar level to those for National Section members who are not affiliated to any branch, but still receive the magazine and all the other advantages of membership.

**New Plymouth Branch Programme/Newsletter** – We publish this usually every 1-2 months with the programme. If you have a short article, quotation etc. either your own thoughts or others' that is theosophically related, or generally helpful, please email it in to me at [jsa@compassnet.co.nz](mailto:jsa@compassnet.co.nz) While inclusion is not guaranteed we will do our best depending on content and space.



**Thus the truth or unreality, the loveliness or banality of what an individual sees depends on what he is within himself, and out of what he sees, the false or the profound, the superficial or the essential, arise his actions.**

Radha Burnier, Inaugural address, 1980  
Reprinted from *The Theosophist*, Vol 140.4 January, 2019